

Application No.: 09/559,255

Docket No.: R2184.0075/P075

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dividing a display space into a plurality of divided spaces corresponding to the respective sub-spaces by taking into account the tree structure; and

displaying the images in the plurality of divided spaces of the display space, such that any given one of the images displayed in one of the divided spaces of the display space belongs to one of the sub-spaces that corresponds to said one of the divided spaces of the display space.

9. (Amended) A computer-readable medium having a program embodied therein for causing a computer to create a display screen image for displaying images that resemble each other, said program comprising:

a program code for extracting image features from images;

a program code for dividing a feature space of the image features into sub-spaces having a hierarchical structure;

a program code for generating a tree structure having the sub-spaces as nodes thereof;

a program code for dividing a display space into a plurality of divided spaces corresponding to the respective sub-spaces by taking into account the tree structure; and

a program code for displaying the images in the plurality of divided spaces of the display space, such that any given one of the images displayed in one of the divided spaces of the display space belongs to one of the sub-spaces that corresponds to said one of the divided spaces of the display space.

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17. (Amended) A device for displaying images that resemble each other, comprising:

a memory which stores therein a program; and

a CPU which executes the program, wherein said CPU executing the program performs the steps of:

extracting image features from images;

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dividing a feature space of the image features into sub-spaces having a hierarchical structure;

generating a tree structure having the sub-spaces as nodes thereof;

dividing a display space into a plurality of divided spaces corresponding to the respective sub-spaces by taking into account the tree structure; and

displaying the images in the plurality of divided spaces of the display space, such that any given one of the images displayed in one of the divided spaces of the display space belongs to one of the sub-spaces that corresponds to said one of the divided spaces of the display space.

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18. (Amended) A computer-readable medium having a program embodied therein for causing a computer to create a display screen image for displaying items that resemble each other, said program comprising:

a program code for extracting item features from items;

a program code for dividing a feature space of the item features into sub-spaces having a hierarchical structure;

a program code for generating a tree structure having the sub-spaces as nodes thereof;

a program code for dividing a display space into a plurality of divided spaces corresponding to the respective sub-spaces by taking into account the tree structure; and

a program code for displaying the items in the plurality of divided spaces of the display space, such that any given one of the items displayed in one of the divided spaces of the display space belongs to one of the sub-spaces that corresponds to said one of the divided spaces of the display space.

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